CLAIMS

1. A graphical user interface comprising:

an editing window;

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means for enabling a user to specify in the editing window one or more transformation hierarchies including one or more transformations, wherein a transformation provides transformation data as an output;

means for enabling a user to specify in the editing window and one or more effects trees, wherein at least one effect in the effect tree has one or more inputs for receiving transformation data and has a local transformation specification that is combined with the received transformation data; and

means for enabling a user to connect an output of a transformation to an input of an effect for receiving the transformation data.

- 2. The graphical user interface of claim 1, wherein an effect also has an input for receiving image data and an output for providing the received image data processed according to the transformation data.
- 3. The graphical user interface of claim 1, wherein the received transformation data is combined with the local transformation specification of the effect as a pretransform.
- 4. The graphical user interface of claim 1, wherein the received transformation data is combined with the local transformation specification of the effect as a post-transform.
- 5. The graphical user interface of claim 1, wherein transforms in a transformation hierarchy and effects in an effect tree are both kinds of time-varying objects.